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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/510,609	10/08/2004	Annette Kim	21076YP	4963
210	7590	12/12/2006	EXAMINER	
MERCK AND CO., INC P O BOX 2000 RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907			DESAI, RITA J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1625	

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/510,609

Applicant(s)

KIM, ANNETTE

Examiner

Rita J. Desai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4,5 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/24/05, 4/17/06.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-21 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-5, drawn to compounds of formula I, classified in class 546 , subclass 97.
- II. Claims 6-21, drawn to pharmaceutical compositions and method of treating , classified in class 514 and subclass 295.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product. See MPEP § 806.05(h). In the instant case See US 4332810, Belanger et al , RN 83090-54-4 R is H, n, p, q are 0 and X is a bond and V is H. R1 is a OH.

These compounds read on the applicants compounds and are used as analgesics.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions require a different field of search (see MPEP § 808.02), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

During a telephone conversation with Mr. Mathew Leff on 12/1/06 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-5. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 6-21 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Rejoinder:-

If the elected compound claims are allowable then the method of treating and the pharmaceutical composition claims will be rejoined limited to the scope of the elected group.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for R to be H, and (CR1a2)n - X - (CR1 a2)p -V-(R2)q to be a phenyl or

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benzyl or alkyl benzodioxo, benzofuran and oxazolo, s to be 0, does not reasonably provide enablement for all the various substitutions such as any aryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycle, C(O)R₄, C(O)OR₄, and C(O)N(R₄)₂; The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. In re Wands, 858 F.2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

1) The breadth of the claims: The instant claims encompass many compounds from an aromatic carbocyclic moiety to an aromatic carbocyclic moiety having many large electron withdrawing and bulky groups substituted on it to a moiety having many heterocyclic rings. These compounds cover a very wide range of compounds.

2) The nature of the invention: The invention is a (highly) substituted tricyclic compound that is useful to treat cancer.

3) The state of the prior art: The state of the prior art is that it involves compounds with bulky groups may interfere and hinder the compounds activity and or formation. Applicants compounds have R's and V to be H to unsubstituted hetero cycle, and several other options which are large bulky groups, which have different charge and properties. The geometric arrangement and charge are different and its interaction with the core are also different thus there is no predictability as to the formation not the activity of the compounds. Not only with the process of making vary but so will the activity. There is no absolute predictability and no established correlation between in vitro activity and the treatment of cancer as the in vitro data is not a reliable predictor of success even in view of the seemingly high level of skill in the art. The existence of these obstacles establishes that the contemporary knowledge in the art would prevent one of ordinary skill in the art from accepting any therapeutic regimen on its face.

4) The level of one of ordinary skill: The ordinary artisan is highly skilled.

5) The level of predictability in the art: It is should be noted that not only is the process of making theses compounds with large bulky groups the pharmaceutical art is unpredictable, requiring each embodiment to be individually assessed for physiological activity. In re Fisher, 427 F. 2d 833, 166 USPQ 18(CCPA 1970) indicates that the more unpredictable an area is, the more specific enablement is necessary in order to satisfy the statue. The level of unpredictability in the art is very high. The compounds which differ by a methyl group also show different properties, for e.g. theophylline and caffeine. One of them is a bronchodilator and they differ only by a methyl group.

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6) The amount of direction provided by the inventor: The inventor provides very little direction in the instant specification. There are no examples with the R being hetero cyclic, cycloalkyls, aryl.

7)The existence of working examples: The instant specification does not have any working examples. The examples provided have R to be H, and $(CR_1a_2)_n - X - (CR_1a_2)_p - V - (R_2)_q$ to be a phenyl or benzyl or alkyl, benzodioxo, benzofuran and oxazolo, s to be 0, does not reasonably provide enablement for all the various substitutions such as any aryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycle, $C(O)R_4$, $C(O)OR_4$, and $C(O)N(R_4)_2$;

8) The quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure: Since there are no working examples, the amount of experimentation is very high and burdensome.

Taking the above eight factors into consideration, it is not seen where the instant specification enables the ordinary artisan to make and/or use the instantly claimed invention.

Genetech Inc Vs Nova Nordisk 42 USPQ 2d 1001.

"A patent is not a hunting license. It is not a reward for search but compensation for its successful conclusion and patent protection is granted in return for an enabling disclosure of an invention, not for vague intimations of general ideas that may or may not be workable."

MPEP 2164.01(a) states, "A conclusion of lack of enablement means that,

based on the evidence regarding each of the above factors, the specification, at the time the application was filed, would not have taught one skilled in the art how to make and/or use the full scope of the claimed invention without undue experimentation. In re Wright, 999 F.2d 1557,1562, 27 USPQ2d 1510, 1513 (Fed. Cir. 1993)." That conclusion is clearly justified here. Thus, undue experimentation will be required to practice Applicants' invention.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

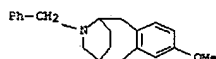
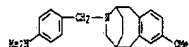
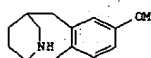
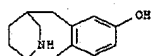
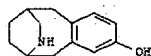
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Belanger et al US 4332810.

The reference discloses the compounds which fall within the scope of claim1.

See compounds in column 3 and whole document.

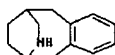
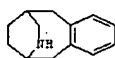


which read on the compounds when R is a H or a substituted alkyl and R1 is a hydroxyl or alkoxy and (CR1a2)n - X - (CR1 a2)p -V-(R2)q is a H. (n, p and q are o, X is a bond and V is a H).

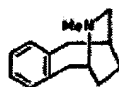
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Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Caplus English abstract DN 113:131976 Iddon Brian et al. or reference in 1449.

The reference discloses the compounds RN # 129177-90-8 and RN # 129277-92-0.



• HC1



(23)

These read on the compounds of the invention when R is H, s is o and (CR1a2)n - X - (CR1 a2)p - V - (R2)q is a H. (n, p and q are o, X is a bond and V is a H). Or when R is CH3 and s is o and (CR1a2)n - X - (CR1 a2)p - V - (R2)q is a H. (n, p and q are o, X is a bond and V is a H).

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

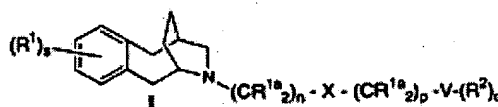
A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned

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with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

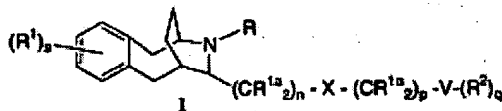
Claims 1-5 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1-5 of copending Application No. 10/510611. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because when applicants R is a H it would read on the same scope as the claims 1-4 of the pending application.



wherein

The generic group is the same.

And would read on the instant application when



5 wherein

R is selected from

1) H,

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Conclusion

Claims 1-3 are not allowable.

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Claims 4 and 5 are allowable.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rita J. Desai whose telephone number is 571-272-0684. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, flex time..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas McKenzie can be reached on 571-272-0670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

R.D.
December 4, 2006

Rita J. Desai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1625

RDesai
12/4/06